

United States Mint, Philadelphia, Penn.,

ENGRAVER'S DEPARTMENT,

June 28<sup>th</sup> 1882.

Sir

I have examined the dies for striking the life saving medals of the first and second class, with the view of making the alterations suggested in the letter of the Hon Secretary of the Treasury, and find. 1<sup>st</sup> To reduce the weight of metal in the gold medal will necessitate a reduction of size. 2<sup>nd</sup> The inscriptions cannot be removed without spoiling the dies. Therefore if new dies are to be engraved I can give any reduction suggested. As these medals are intended to be worn I would propose  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. as a good size and one that can be made for the price named 30¢.

I have also prepared a design for the rider, and respectfully suggest that these medals should be accompanied with a rider when

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## ENGRAVER'S DEPARTMENT,

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first awarded, the first having the inscription  
 1<sup>st</sup> service with date, if as said in section nine  
 of the act enclosed, "The same person should  
 perform a second service", the second bar or  
 rider would have engraved thereon 2<sup>nd</sup> service  
 and date, thus the medal and riders would tell  
 the whole story at sight. It will be impossible  
 to send "soft metal examples", as these cannot be  
 obtained until the dies are engraved, and really  
 I see no object in sending the same, as the medals  
 will differ only in the inscription and size.

I am very respectfully

Your obedient servant

Chas. S. Barber

Wm A. London, Snowden  
 Superintendent.

Engraver

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 126

United States Mint, Philadelphia, Penn.,  
Engraver's Department,  
June 28, 1882

Sir

I have examined the dies for striking the life saving medals of the first and second class, with the view of making the alterations suggested in the letter of the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury, and find, 1st To reduce the weight of metal in the gold medal will necessitate a reduction of size “ 2nd The inscription cannot be removed without spoiling the dies. Therefore if new dies are to be engraved I can give any reduction suggested. As these medals are intended to be worn I would propose 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. as a good size and one that can be made for the price named 50\$” “ I have also prepared a design for the riders, and respectfully suggest that these medals should be accompanied with a rider when first awarded, the first having the inscription 1st service with date, if as said in section nine of the act enclosed, “The same person should perform a second service”, the second bar or rider would have engraved thereon 2nd service and date, thus the medal and riders would be the whole story at sight. It will be impossible to send “soft metal examples”, as these cannot be obtained until the dies are engraved, and really I see no object in sending the same, as the medals will differ only in the inscription and size.

I am very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
Chas. E. Barber  
Engraver

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden  
Superintendent.